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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-20 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HA-05 SSM-05 /110 W
----------085057 031305Z /43/70
R 311525Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7394
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY LONDON

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, LE, EG
SUBJ: CHAMOUN RESPONDS TO SADAT'S CHARGES

REF: BEIRUT 1683

1. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE IN NATIONAL LIBERAL PARTY'S OFFICIAL PAPER, AL AHRAR, ON CAMILLE CHAMOUN'S REJECTION OF DADAT'S CHARGE THAT CHAMOUN, ASSAD AND BEGIN HAD PLOTTED TO FORM A MARONITE STATE.

2. BEGIN TEXT. "SADAT, KISHKISH (CLOWN) OF OUR TIME, A SYMBOL OF MISFORTUNE AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF LIES AND FALSIFICATION. THIS WAS DECLARED BY FORMER PRESIDENT CHAMOUN YESTERDAY, IN REPLY TO ANWAR SADAT'S DECLARATIONS, BY WHICH THE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT TRIED TO DENY THE SERIOUS CHARGES MADE AGAINST HIM AFTER HIS DEFEATIST STANDS AGAINST THE INTERESTS OF THE BROTHERLY
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EGYPTIAN PEOPLE AND AGAINST THE OTHER ARAB NATIONS.

3. "PRESIDENT CHAMOUN ATTACKED STRONGLY PRESIDENT SADAT AND THE LATTER'S DECLARATIONS TO THE EGYPTIAN MAGAZINE OCTOBER.

4. "PRESIDENT CHAMOUN DENIED THE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT'S

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ALLEGATIONS THAT HE WISHED TO ESTABLISH A MARONITE STATE. PRESIDENT CHAMOUN REFUTED SADAT'S ALLEGATIONS ABOUT THE BAGHDAD PACT, AND PRESIDENT CHAMOUN EXPRESSED HOPE THAT EGYPT COULD DO WITHOUT SADAT BECAUSE HE REPRESENTED MISFORTUNE.

5. "THE EGYPTIAN EMBASSY HAD MADE INTENSIFIED CONTACTS WITH PRESIDENT CHAMOUN THROUGH COMMON FRIENDS AND REQUESTED THAT PRESIDENT CHAMOUN NOT MAKE HIS STATEMENT. BUT THE PRESIDENT OF THE LEBANESE FRONT SAID HE WOULD GIVE THE EGYPTIAN EMBASSY TILL 8 P.M. TO ISSUE AN APOLOGY OR A DENIAL OF THE ARTICLE THAT APPEARED IN OCTOBER MAGAZINE. WHEN THE TIME ELAPSED WITHOUT A STATEMENT, CHAMOUN MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

6. "I HAVE READ SADAT'S STATEMENT IN THE OCTOBER MAGAZINE, AND I READ THESE DAYS MANY THINGS, ESPECIALLY THE HISTORY OF ACTING IN EGYPT. I REALIZED THAT THE MOST FAMOUS ACTOR WAS A MAN CALLED AMIN ATALLA, WHO WAS NAMED "KISHKISH BEY, WHO WAS REALLY A GREAT ACTOR AND AMUSING AT THE SAME TIME. PROVIDENCE DID NOT DEPRIVE EGYPT OF ANOTHER ACTOR WHO IS A KISHKISH OF OUR TIME, BUT HE IS OF THE TYPE WHO INSPIRES MISFORTUNE. HE WAS BORN IN MISFORTUNE, BROUGHT UP IN MISFORTUNE AND BECAME A REPRESENTATIVE OF MISFORTUNE IN ALL THE MEANING OF THE WORD. HE DID NOT RESTRICT HIMSELF TO ACTING, BUT HE
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RESORTED TO LIES AS A WEAPON AND FALSIFIED HISTORY AS HE PLEASED.

7. "'WITH REGARD TO THE DOCUMENT WHICH SADAT ALLEDGED THAT HE HAD BEEN HANDED BY MR. CYRUS VANCE, EITHER SADAT IS A COUNTERFEITER OR MR. VANCE IS A COUNTER-FEITER. I DEDUCE THAT WHEN SADAT FAILS AND MEETS WITH DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN DIFFICULTIES, HE TRIES TO DISTRACT PUBLIS OPINION WITH SIDE MATTERS. HE ACCUSED PRESIDENT ASSAD OF NOT HELPING THE PALESTINIANS AND CHARGED HIM WITH TRYING TO ESTABLISH A GREATER SYRIA. SADAT ACCUSED ME OF TRYING TO ESTABLISH A MARONITE STATE. THIS IA A LIE, WHICH EVERYONE KNOWS. THE STATEMENTS OF THE LEBANESE FRONT AND MY OWN STATEMENTS ATTEST THAT NO ONE THOUGHT OF ESTABLISHING A MARONITE STATE. ALSO NO ONE THOUGHT OF CEDING ONE INCH OF LEBANON'S TERRITORIES TO ANYBODY.

8. "'IN REFERRING BACK TO THE BAGHDAD PACT, HERE AGAIN SADAT PROCEEDED TO LIE AND TO FALSIFY HISTORY. HE KNOWS THAT WHEN HE VISITED ME IN THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE, WE AGREED THAT HE AND THE LATE SAMI AL SOLH SHOULD GO TO

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BAGHDAD WITH CLEAR INSTRUCTIONS TO STOP THE IRAQI
GOVERNMENT FROM GOING AHEAD WITH THE BAGHDAD PACT.
I STILL HAVE THE MESSAGES WHICH WERE SENT AT THAT
TIME, AND I CAN MAKE THEM PUBLIC AT ANY TIME I WISH.

9. "MY ADVISE IS THAT SADAT SHOULD SHUT UP AND BE
QUIET. WE WISH EGYPT ALL THE BEST, AND PERHAPS ALL
THE BEST WILL COME TO EGYPT IF IT DISPOSES OF ITS
REPRESENTATIVE OF MISFORTUNE." END TEXT. PARKER

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